United Nations S/2015/718

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 September 2015
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 16 September 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit the following information:

Tuesday, 15 September 2015 was another day of bloodshed for the city of Aleppo. Armed terrorist groups carried out yet another massacre of the innocent population. Even children at school were not spared.

Armed terrorists belonging to the so-called Army of Mujahidin, the Badr Martyrs' Brigade, the Nusrah Front, the Nur al-Din al-Zanki Battalion and other terrorist organizations associated with the would-be-Islamist Erdoğan regime and the Wahhabi Al-Saud regime fired a large number of missiles and explosive shells at several quarters of Aleppo city. The neighbourhoods of Furqan and Hamdaniyah were the worst hit. The targets were children at school and civilians in their homes and places of work. Thirty-one civilians were killed, of whom 13 were children, three were women and 15 were men, several of them elderly. Over 135 civilians were injured, most of them children, women and the elderly. Some are in a serious condition. There was also extensive material damage to public and private property.

The massacre was committed by the terrorist groups that some like to call "the moderate armed opposition" or "armed non-State groups". This was one of a series of terrorist crimes that have targeted peaceful Syrian cities, including Aleppo, for over four years. The city's innocent civilians have been killed, starved and denied water. Food has been kept out, and the water and electrical networks have been sabotaged. Those actions were taken because the population took a firm stand against the extremist terrorist groups, rejecting their obscurantist practices and their repulsive, inhuman ideology.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that it is ready to combat terrorism in Syria and determined to fulfil its constitutional duty to defend and protect the Syrian people. It once more calls on the Security Council and the Secretary-General to condemn this latest criminal act, support the efforts of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and cooperate with it in order to eradicate terrorism, which endangers peace and security in Syria, the region and the world.

Syria once again calls on the Security Council to take deterrent action against the terrorist groups and those States that support and fund them. The Council must

avoid double standards in its approach to terrorism. It cannot make excuses or hide behind tired and discredited old assertions. It must uphold its counter-terrorism resolutions, particularly resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015). Syria also reiterates that the United Nations must take a comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism and eschew the sophistry that was recently deployed by certain States, including the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Australia and Belgium in order to mount an assault on the Charter of the United Nations, abdicate their responsibilities and justify their insincere counter-terrorism efforts and their violations of State sovereignty.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative